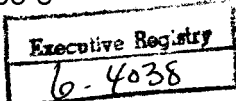


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13 December 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Composition of Congressional Committees in
the 84th Congress

While the full composition of the Congressional Committees in the 84th Congress is not yet determined, much of the senior membership can be indicated.

1. Senate Appropriations Committee

Senator Carl Hayden (D., Ariz.), will assume the Chairmanship of this Committee from Senator Styles Bridges (R., N.H.), who will become the ranking Minority Leader. The second and third ranking Republicans on the Committee, Senators Ferguson and Cordon, were both defeated, which leaves one Republican vacancy to be filled. On the Democratic side, Senators McCarran and Maybank have both died which will leave three Democratic vacancies for the full Committee. It should be noted that Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney (D., Wyo.), former Chairman of the Armed Services Appropriations Subcommittee, has been re-elected to the Senate after an absence of two years. He may be re-assigned to the Appropriations Committee although he will not regain his seniority. Senator O'Mahoney was always extremely helpful to CIA in appropriations matters. The present ranking Democrats on the Armed Services Appropriations Subcommittee are Senators Hayden, Russell, Chavez, and Hill. As full Committee Chairman, Senator Hayden probably will not assume any Subcommittee Chairmanship. It is not known whether Senator Russell, as Chairman of the Armed Services Committee, would consider it appropriate to Chair the Armed Services Appropriations Subcommittee. Senator Chavez has had no contact with CIA and may seek another Appropriations Subcommittee Chairmanship in greater line with his interests. This might bring Senator Lister Hill (D., Ala.), to the Subcommittee Chairmanship. He was formerly a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee and is friendly to CIA. However, it is believed that Senator Hayden will personally take a major interest in the CIA appropriations. On the Republican side of the Armed Services Appropriations Subcommittee, the former Subcommittee Chairman, Senator Ferguson, has been defeated as has Senator Cordon, who was also a Subcommittee member. This will leave the following Republicans on the Subcommittee:

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Senators Bridges, Saltonstall, Knowland, Young, Thye, and Smith of Maine. The remaining Democrat on the Subcommittee is Senator McClellan, with three Democratic vacancies to fill.

2. House Appropriations Committee

There have been no changes among the senior members of the House Appropriations Committee. Congressman Clarence Cannon (D., Mo.), will succeed Mr. Taber as Chairman. As the present Committee alignment is thirty Republicans and twenty Democrats, and as only four of the Republicans ~~are~~ left (two, Cotton of New Hampshire, and Hruska of Nebraska, having been elected to the Senate), six junior Republicans will have to be dropped if the present ratio between Majority and Minority is retained. All of the Democrats were re-elected. Insofar as the Armed Services Appropriations Subcommittee is concerned, its Chairmanship presumably will remain with Mr. Mahon, the Committee's second ranking Democrat, and will include Congressmen Sheppard and Sikes. On the Republican side, Congressmen Wigglesworth, Scrivner, Ford, Miller, and Ostertag will return with Congressman Hruska going to the Senate. However, this ratio will have to be realigned and it is presumed that, if past Democratic precedent is followed, a much smaller group than last year will hear the CIA appropriation.

3. Senate Armed Services Committee

Senator Russell will succeed Senator Saltonstall as Chairman of this Committee, which is divided eight and seven between the Majority and Minority Parties. None of the Democrats on the Committee were defeated, and they will add one member upon assuming Majority. There is some talk that Senator Wayne Morse will be given back his seat on this Committee if he desires it. On the Republican side, Senator Hendrickson did not seek re-election, and Senator Cooper was defeated, leaving one Republican vacancy to be filled.

4. House Armed Services Committee

Congressman Carl Vinson will succeed Congressman Dewey Short as Chairman of the Committee. There have been no changes in its senior membership other than that caused by the death of the fourth ranking Republican, Paul W. Shafer of Michigan.


5. Joint Committee on Atomic Energy

Under the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, the Chairmanship of the Joint Committee reverts to the Senate in even-numbered Congresses. Therefore, the new Committee Chairman will be Senator Clinton P. Anderson of New Mexico, the second ranking Democrat on the

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Committee. Senator Russell, the ranking Democrat on the Committee, prefers to retain the Chairmanship of the Armed Services Committee. The other Democratic Senators are Pastore of Rhode Island, and Albert Gore of Tennessee, the latter having been designated during the recent Special Session in place of Senator Johnson of Colorado, who is retiring from the Senate. There is still one Democratic Senatorial vacancy on the Committee. The Republican Senators are Hickenlooper, Millikin, Knowland, and Bricker. Senator Cordon having been defeated, this eliminates the one Republican Senator who would have to be dropped when the Democrats assumed control. On the House side, Congressman Durham of North Carolina, is the ranking Democrat, and will become Vice-Chairman of the Committee with Congressmen Holifield, Price, and Kilday remaining. There is one Democratic House vacancy. On the Republican side, there are Congressmen Cole, Hinshaw, Van Zandt, Jenkins, and Patterson, one of whom will have to be dropped. While Patterson is the junior Congressman, it is believed that Jenkins may step aside.


Walter L. Pforzheimer
Legislative Counsel

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